

Sinclair Broadcast Group's recent actions are an example of what is bad in media consolidation.

If big private companies can use airwaves for free, then they are obliged to serve the public and act in public interest by providing objective, nonpartisan, and rich local, national and international news. However, even if such a megacompany did their best to deliver objective news, they will never be able to fully serve each local population with the particular news of local interest in the real time. Only a truly locally based media station can have the means and the agility of the local reporter. Big corporations are good as a distributor of world stories of international and national interest. Even then, if they use public channels they must serve public.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not

weaken them. They
show why the license
renewal process
needs to involve
more than a returned
postcard. Thank you.